

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0858

INFO USMISSION USBERLIN

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

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C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 12949

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, WB, GW, US, UK, FR

SUBJECT: GERMAN NATIONAL FOUNDATION

REFS: (A) BONN A-195, JULY 8, 1976; (B) BONN 9764

SUMMARY: THERE IS TRIPARTITE AGREEMENT HERE THAT A NATIONAL FOUNDATION ON LINES OF THE DRAFT STATUTES ENCLOSED REF A- COULD BE ESTABLISHED IN BERLIN. POSSIBLE POLITICAL FALLOUT FROM THE SOVIETS IS NOT SEEN AS OVERRIDING IF THE FRG DECIDES THE FOUNDATION MUST BE ESTABLISHED IN BERLIN. END SUMMARY.

1. ALLIES HERE HAVE STUDIED THE DRAFT STATUTES OF A GERMAN NATIONAL FOUNDATION (NF) AND HAVE DISCUSSED THE MATTER TRIPARTITELY. CONCLUSION REACHED IS THAT ESTABLISHMENT OF NF IN BERLIN ON BASIS OF THE DRAFT STATUTES WOULD NOT VIOLATE STATUS OF BERLIN OR ANY QUADRIpartite AGREEMENTS. SETTING UP THE NF IN BERLIN WOULD THUS BE "LEGAL."

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2. POLITICALLY, TRIPARTITE JUDGMENT HERE IS THAT ESTABLISHING THE NF IN BERLIN WOULD BE ILL-ADVISED, BUT MAINLY BECAUSE OF FALLOUT IN INNER-GERMAN SPHERE RATHER THAN RE FOUR POWER RELATIONS. THUS, CONCLUSION IS THAT POSSIBLE POLITICAL CONSEQUENCES ARE NOT OF OVER-RIDING NATURE WHICH WOULD CALL FOR ALLIED VETO OF A BERLIN LOCATION. WE WOULD, HOWEVER, TRIPARTITELY POINT OUT PROVOCATIVE NATURE OF SECTION 2 PARA 5 OF DRAFT STATUTES, WHICH WOULD GIVE THE NF SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITIES RE "EAST GERMAN CULTURE."

3. THERE HAS BEEN NO PRESS INTEREST IN THE NF SINCE THE JUNE 3 MEETING OF THE LAENDER MINISTER-PRESIDENTS AND THE STATEMENT BY HAMBURG MAYOR KLOSE (SEE REF B). THE PRESS GUIDANCE AGREED IN THE BONN GROUP (PARA 6 REF B) HAS NOT BEEN USED.

4. REGARDING GENSCHER'S DESIRE TO BRIEF THE OPPOSITION, WE HAVE BEEN TOLD BY THE FOREIGNOFFICE REP THAT THIS WAS DONE BY GENSCHER AND THE CHANCELLOR IN A JUNE 4 MEETING WITH THE LAENDER MINISTER-PRESIDENTS. THE SITUATION WAS EXPLAINED, THE MINISTER-PRESIDENTS WERE INFORMED THAT CONSULTATIONS WITH THE ALLIES WERE BEGINNING, AND THEY WERE ASKED TO REACH NO CONCLUSIONS PRIOR TO THE END OF THE CONSULTATIONS. THE FOREIGN OFFICE BELIEVES THE REQUEST WILL CONTINUE TO BE HONORED.

5. COMMENT: WE HAVE BEEN TOLD BY BOTH CHANCELLERY AND FOREIGN OFFICE OFFICIALS THAT THEY WOULD BE PERFECTLY HAPPY IF THE ALLIES TOOK THEIR TIME WITH THE MATTER. IT IS CLEAR THAT THE FRG HOPES THE ISSUE WILL STAY ON THE BACK BURNER AND OUT OF PUBLIC EYE UNTIL AFTER OCTOBER. IF, HOWEVER, THE MATTER DOES HEAT UP AGAIN AND THE FRG REQUESTS AN ALLIED POSITION, UNLESS INSTRUCTED OTHERWISE WE WILL TAKE THE LINE INDICATED ABOVE IN PARAS 1 AND 2.

6. AN ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF THE DRAFT STATUTES IS BEING POUCHED TO EUR/CE (KORNBLUM) AND TO USBER
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(LANDFAIR).
HILLENBRAND

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